

THE BAG

There is no evidence that anything was ever in the bag!

This becomes clear in Vol. IV, on p.97, during the testimony of James C. Cadigan, a questioned documents expert with the FBI, on April 3, 1964.

Asked "did you notice when you looked at the bag whether there were - that is the bag found on the sixth floor, Exhibit 142 - whether it had any bulges or unusual creases?" Mr. Cadigan replied, "I was also requested at that time to examine the bag to determine if there were any significant markings or scratches or abrasions or anything by which it could be associated with the rifle, Commission Exhibit 139, that is, could I find any markings that I could tie to that rifle." Almost with bated breath, the questioner says, "Yes?" and Mr. Cadigan replied, "And I couldn't find any such markings."

There then follows conjecture about "suppose it were this, suppose it were that, how about if it was wrapped in cloth, " ignoring the fact that, had it been wrapped in cloth, there presumably from other testimony would have been minute fibres of the cloth left on the rifle or in the bag; the fact is that there is no proof the rifle was ever in the bag.

So now the Commission has proved, first, that its witnesses prove that Oswald couldn't have carried the rifle in the bag into the building and, second, that even if he could have there is no evidence that the bag contained a rifle.

However, Mr. Stombaugh had a great desire to be helpful. It might be inferred that he even confessed to theft of government property in an effort to do so. On p.75 of his testimony, he said, "When I looked at ~~the~~ bag and examined it, it struck me as being a homemade bag such

2 - bag

as I could make. Occasionally I will have a need for something like this at home. Therefore, I will take some brown paper and a strip of tape home with me. Then when I get home I will fold...." etc.

He does work for the FBI!